



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

Beginning with a quotation of Palgrave's severe judgment of Ovid, the speaker passed in rapid review various estimates placed upon the poet by his contemporaries and subsequent critics, and showed how great was his influence, through Boccaccio, upon Shakespeare. Versifying was naturally easy to Ovid, as to Pope and Lamartine, who "lisp'd in numbers for the numbers came". His extraordinary fondness for mythical romances, which the storehouse of antiquity furnished him without measure, never left him without a theme to clothe in poetic garb. What Tibullus and other elegiac writers treated with great seriousness and overweighted with sentiment Ovid handled humorously and in lighter fashion. He was indebted to his contemporary poets and they to him. Professor Rand by clever metrical translations of passages from Horace and Ovid showed how they paid tribute to each other, imitation being the mark of appreciation. He warned readers against taking too seriously Ovid's accounts of lovers' woes and against assigning to the poet himself sentiments expressed by his unfortunate characters. He thinks that modern readers lose much by failing to detect the subtle humor of the poet and by reading extracts regardless of their context.

Fortunately for his auditors and for the more general public Professor Rand's paper will be printed in a volume shortly to be issued from the press of the Houghton Mifflin Company, entitled *Harvard Essays on Classical Subjects*, edited by Professor Herbert W. Smyth.

In a conference held after the general meeting of the Club the Executive Committee discussed the possibility of securing an endowment for more classical scholarships to be awarded to graduates of our city High Schools. The one Latin Scholarship now available is so eagerly sought by many worthy candidates that additional ones should be created. The gratifying report that the beginning Greek classes in different High Schools are unusually large would justify establishing one or more Greek scholarships. O would that some benevolent and generous friends of the Classics would contribute a fund whereby boys and girls of outstanding ability and limited finances might continue their classical studies!

ANNA P. MACVAY, *Censor*

### THE CLASSICAL CLUB OF PHILADELPHIA

The Classical Club of Philadelphia celebrated its one hundredth meeting on Friday, February 9, at the University Club, with a dinner at which Professor Clifford H. Moore of Harvard University and Professor Wilfred P. Mustard of Johns Hopkins University were the guests of honor.

This Club is composed of men in Philadelphia and the vicinity who are interested in the study of Greek and Roman literature. The membership includes many representatives of the Faculties of the University of Pennsylvania and of Bryn Mawr, Haverford and Swarthmore Colleges, of the Central High School of Philadelphia and other educational institutions, besides several professional and business men of the city. The Club holds six meetings a year, and has been flourishing for over sixteen years—a rather notable record for an association of this kind.

The dinner was followed by numerous toasts, the President, Professor Roland G. Kent, of the University of Pennsylvania, acting as toastmaster, as follows:

Professor W. P. Mustard (Johns Hopkins), Former Members; Professor Ellis A. Schnabel (Central High School), Faithful Members; Professor Walter Dennison (Swarthmore), Classics in the West; Professor B. W. Mitchell, Secretary of the Club (Central High School), Hard Work; Mr. T. W. Pierce (a prominent lawyer of West Chester, Pa.), Classics for the Non-Classical; Professor C. H. Moore (Harvard), Honored Guests.

A Latin ode for the occasion was composed by Professor John C. Rolfe, of the University of Pennsylvania.

Later a regular meeting was held, at which Professor Moore gave the Club a critical analysis of the work of several Roman historians, in a paper entitled *Three Roman Historians*.

The officers of the Club for the current year are Professor R. G. Kent, President; Dr. F. B. Brandt, Central High School, Philadelphia, Vice-President; Dr. B. W. Mitchell, Secretary-Treasurer.

R. G. KENT.

The Latin Ode composed by Professor Rolfe, referred to in the foregoing letter from Professor Kent, is herewith presented. In a later issue space will be found, if possible, for the Latin menu.

Salvete, o comites, sollemnia qui celebrantes  
convenistis in hunc, docta caterva, locum.  
Nunc decet et vinum bibere et nunc volvere fumum,  
pectore tunc docti condere verba viri.  
Carus et exspectatus ades, doctissime, qui nunc  
sis decori nostris, vir sapiens<sup>1</sup>, epulis.  
Iam centum noctes sollemnia talia adimus,  
omnibus at nondum tot numerare licet.  
Unus et alter adest qui nulli defuit horae,  
multos, heu! frustra quaerimus ante notos.  
Conditor<sup>2</sup>, oceanus nos inter volvitur atrox;  
mors inimitior, a! te habet alte senex<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Professor C. H. Moore.

<sup>2</sup> Professor Alfred Gudeman.

<sup>3</sup> This verse and the next refer to Professor W. A. Lamberton.

Sit tibi terra levis, linguae doctissime Graecae;  
conditor, o veniat gloria magna tibi.  
Et vos, o socii, multos vireatis ad annos.  
di vobis tribuant gaudia, nomen, opes.

## CORRESPONDENCE

I hope THE CLASSICAL WEEKLY will find it convenient to print, while the subject is still fresh in the minds of its readers, a brief reply to a portion of the editorial of February 3 (5.105). Your words are likely to produce the impression that my article in *The Classical Journal*, which furnishes the text for the editorial, interpreted the new Latin requirements as intending "that an amount of Latin equivalent to what had been formerly read should still be read intensively as before", and you give it as my view that "sight translation when done should be over and above the stated amount of reading". As a matter of fact, there is nothing of this sort in my article. I criticized the syllabus of the New York State Education Department in these words: "It adds to the reading prescribed by the commission's definitions two books of Caesar, two speeches of Cicero, and a book of Vergil, and apparently demands that all the reading not prescribed be done at sight. It thus restricts the freedom of the schools, on the one hand, in the choice of reading; on the other hand, in the determination of the quantity of sight-translation. I suspect that the framers of the syllabus took the definitions of the commission to mean that all reading not prescribed was to be at sight. This explanation would account for their increase of the prescription, and for their statement that 'there are many schools that can not at once meet the conditions of this report which are ideal'. I can find no other explanation of the statement. The definitions of the commission left the schools free to read the portions of text which the syllabus adds to the prescription".

I am concerned to see this misunderstanding corrected, because I have been to some pains in keeping my public explanations of the Commission's report close to the plain and exact meaning of its recommendations. In the case in question I am sure I succeeded in doing this. The commission expressly aimed to secure for the schools a larger freedom from the prescription of reading than the syllabus allows, and it certainly had no desire or intention to enjoin on the schools any fixed amount of sight-translation. My fear that the New York Syllabus would prove a hindrance to uniformity appears to have been well-grounded. Colleges both within and without the state have refused to accept for admission the Latin prepared in accordance with its provisions. In at least one instance the assumed identity of its requirements with those recommended by the Commission has been prejudicial to the latter. I have heard more complaint from New York concerning the Syllabus than from the whole country, including New York, concerning the report of the Commission. My own knowledge of the public schools of your state goes back to the days of my own preparation in one of them for a New York College, and I do not understand why they especially need the prescription of B. G. 1-2, Cat. 1 and 3, and an additional book of Vergil, and must be told at the same time that all the reading not prescribed is to be done at sight. I have been unable to discover what the peculiar conditions are,

and your editorial furnishes no clue to the mystery.

I did not, then, in my article touch the question which you now raise. It is, however, a question of some importance, and I have no wish to quibble about it. The report of the Commission does not say that the full amount of reading shall be done intensively, nor does it say that it shall not be so done. It was agreed that a reduction in the amount of reading in the schools was not at present feasible, though some of us thought it desirable, and I suppose there can be no doubt that a College is acting within both the letter and the spirit of the report if it chooses to exact a certificate that the candidate for admission has read the whole amount with some thoroughness. This does not mean that there is no gain for the Schools in the new requirements, for the large freedom in the choice of reading is a great relief, and students preparing for college-entrance examinations have to keep in hand only about one third of the former amount of text. Nor does it mean that the reading at sight must be added to the stated amount of reading, as you represent me as holding. In fact, I believe that the exercise in reading at sight should, at least in the earlier stages, deal with the advance lesson. This surely is the way to attain the object which the commissions sets forth—"correct methods of work on the part of the student". I fancy it would be instructive in this connection to learn just how the New York schools go about it to meet the requirements of the Syllabus.

I take considerable satisfaction in the knowledge that my views regarding sight-translation are in substantial agreement with your own, and I know that you, as well as I, have loyally subordinated your personal opinion on this and many other matters to the program of agreement and stability in the Latin requirements which was dictated by the needs of the schools and the forward movement in classical study. If any of your readers care to know my views of the function and methods of sight-translation, they will find them set forth in *The Classical Journal* for June, 1910.

JOHN C. KIRTLAND.

[The important things to re-emphasize, as it seems to me, are these. The New York State Syllabus requires the same amount and the same authors as the Commission's report. It lays the same emphasis on sight translation. It looks forward to the adoption of the full provisions of the report. Meanwhile it guards against any fiasco by giving the teachers in the state an opportunity to work up to new demands. In this way it furthers the Commission's work, and will doubtless be revised to the full adoption of this work as soon as it can show success in the step already taken. G. L.]

The annual meeting of the Classical Association of the Atlantic States will be held on Friday and Saturday, May 3-4, at the University of Pennsylvania. The programme of papers is nearly complete. It is expected that the dinner on Friday evening, the innovation so successful last year, will become a fixture of the annual meetings. Full details will be published soon. Meanwhile members are urged to note the dates, to be present themselves for at least a part of the meeting, and to bring with them others, especially those who may be ready to identify themselves with the Association.